H. CON. RES. 266

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the
benefits of music education.

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Whereas there is a growing body of scientific research demonstrating that children who receive music instruction perform better on spatial-temporal reasoning tests and proportional math problems;

Whereas music education grounded in rigorous instruction is an important component of a well-rounded academic program;

Whereas opportunities in music and the arts have enabled children with disabilities to participate more fully in school and community activities;

Whereas music and the arts can motivate at-risk students to stay in school and become active participants in the educational process;

Whereas according to the College Board, college-bound high school seniors in 1998 who received music instruction scored 53 points higher on the verbal portion of the Scholastic Aptitude Test and 39 points higher on the math portion of the test than college-bound high school seniors with no music or arts instruction;

Whereas a 1999 report by the Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse states that individuals who participated in band or orchestra reported the lowest levels of current and lifelong use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs; and

Whereas comprehensive, sequential music instruction enhances early brain development and improves cognitive and communicative skills, self-discipline, and creativity: Now, therefore, be it

1   *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*

2   *concurring),* That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3   (1) music education enhances intellectual devel-

4   opment and enriches the academic environment for

5   children of all ages; and

6   (2) music educators greatly contribute to the

7   artistic, intellectual, and social development of

1   American children, and play a key role in helping

2   children to succeed in school.

Passed the House of Representatives June 13, 2000.

Attest:

Clerk.